Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar :—" With reference to the allegation in the statement that Mr. Bashyam received only slight injuries, may I ask whether anybody who kindly saw the injuries on the person of Mr. Bashyam had any contribution to the making of that statement? I have myself seen his injuries."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :— "No."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I know if the hon. Member is aware that the police bus in which Mr. Bashyam was taken did not take him to his residence?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" I shall make enquiries."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" Is the hon. Member aware that he was dropped in Harrington Road?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" It may be so."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Education

Purchase of Hotel Cecil at Vizagapatam for the Andhra University.

281 Q.—Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Andhra University has recommended the purchase of Hotel Cecil and its grounds of 28 acres at Vizagapatam at a cost of 3½ lakhs;

(b) whether he has approved of the recommendation?

A.—(a) It is a fact that the University suggested at one time the acquisition of this property among others. No estimate of cost was received from that body.

(b) No.

Government's policy towards the development of the Andhra University.

282 Q.—Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi : Will the hon the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state whether he will lay on the table of the House a statement showing the policy of the Government towards the educational and administrative development of the Andhra University?

A.—The question of the educational and administrative development of the University is primarily for consideration by that body.

Grants to the Andhra University for building purposes.

283 Q.—Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether he will lay on the table of the House the correspondence up to date between the Government of Madras and the Andhra University on the subject of the grant of Rs. 7½ lakhs for building purposes;

[30th January 1931

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government in October last stated that the grant of Rs. 7½ lakhs for building purposes could not be paid to the University before April 1931 ; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons that compelled the Government to change that view and pay the sum in December 1930 ?

A.—(a) A copy [a] of the correspondence is placed on the table ; the grant is not only for buildings but also for equipment.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Prevention of financial waste in lower standards of elementary schools.

284 Q.—Mr. K. Koti Reddi : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state what steps the Government propose to take in order to prevent the financial waste in the lower standards of elementary schools, particularly of girls' schools, as is evidenced by the considerable reduction in numbers in the higher standards as against those in the lower standards ?

A.—The question is receiving consideration in connexion with the proposed Bill to amend the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920.

Association of cinema with teaching in schools.

285 Q.—Mr. K. Koti Reddi : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state whether any steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken for investigating the desirability and possibility of associating cinema with teaching imparted in schools ?

A.—The question was considered in connexion with the report of the Indian Cinematograph Committee. A copy [b] of the orders passed is placed on the table.

Abolition of caste discrimination in Government hostels.

286 Q.—Mr. A. Kondappa : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether boarding sections in hostels attached to the Government colleges are based upon differences of caste or faith ; and

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, whether the Government propose to abolish the present sections and divide the boarding sections into vegetarian and non-vegetarian ?

A.—(a) It is a fact that in the hostels attached to most Government Colleges sectarian messes exist.

(b) The Director of Public Instruction has been instructed to see what can be done to encourage common messes in hostels.

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 696–697 infra. [b] Printed as Appendix IV on page 698 infra.

Pay and status of Pandits and Munshis.

287 Q.—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have promised to treat the Oriental Languages on a par with the other subjects;

(b) what steps have been taken till now to give effect to the promise made by the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government in his speech on the resolution regarding pay and status of Pandits and Munshis moved on 27th March 1928; and

(c) what steps do the Government propose to take to remove the inequality in pay and status of Pandits and Munshis and of lecturers, assistant lecturers and school assistants?

A.—(a) No; what the Government said was that they would consider in what way the scales of pay of pandits could be made better.

(b) & (c) The question has been carefully considered since and it has been decided that no change in the existing position is called for.

Excise

Closure of toddy shops in Tiruchengodu taluk.

288 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to close some more toddy and arrack shops round Tiruchengodu town (Salem district);

(b) whether the Commissioner of Excise during his recent visit to the place promised to that effect;

(c) if so, which are the shops to be closed and from which date; and

(d) whether the Government have considered the question of closing all the shops throughout the taluk?

A.—(a) to (d) A copy[a] of the reference received from the Commissioner of Exise, C.R. No. 5907-Abk./30, dated 18th December 1930, on the subject and a copy of the orders passed thereon by Government are appended.

Industries

Encouragement to sugar industry.

289 Q.—Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) how many sugar factories there are in the Presidency;

(b) whether all of them are working;

(c) whether the Director of Agriculture has submitted any proposals on the subject of paddy and sugarcane crops in the Presidency, and whether the Government have taken any action thereon;

(d) whether the Government have any policy to encourage sugarcane crop and sugar industry in delta parts where paddy is grown now; and

(e) what is the worth of sugar imported into this Presidency per year?

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[a] Printed as Appendix V on pages 699–701 infra.

A.—(a) 7.

(b) Four are working, two are not working and there is no information about one.

(c) The Director of Agriculture represented to Government that the ryots will be benefited if they raise dry crops and industrial crops in place of the existing indiscriminate cultivation of paddy. No action on the part of Government w s called for as the choice of crop for cultivation rests mainly with the ryot

(d) The Agricultural Department is helping the ryots by demonstration and supply of improved setts of cane. The main lines along which demonstration is continued are :—

(1) Introduction of better varieties

(2) Practice of line planting, trenching, propping and wrapping.

(3) Manuring.

(4) Improved furnaces and mills.

(5) Use of immature setts produced by a short cropping system.

(e) The hon. Member's attention is drawn to the Annual statement of the Sea Borne Trade and Navigation of the Madras Presidency compiled by the Collector of Customs, Madras, and published by the Government of India which furnishes the information required.

Registration

Opening of a sub-registry office at Tanakal.

290 Q.—Mr. A. KONDAPPA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that on account of heavy work in the Sub-Registrar's office, Kadiri, the existing clerical staff is over-worked and made to turn out double the volume of work which is usually allotted to the staff;

(b) whether any memorials were sent to the Inspector-General of Registration by the people of Tanakal division, Kadiri taluk, Anantapur district, in the year 1930 for the opening of a sub-registry office at Tanakal;

(c) what action was taken on those memorials; and

(d) what was the number of documents which were registered at Kadiri Sub-Registrar's office from Tanakal division during the years 1928 and 1929?

A.—The information has been called for.

Transfer of Sub-Registrars and non-gazetted officers of the Revenue Department.

291. Q.—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(1) the principle upon which transfers of Sub-Registrars are effected; and

(2) whether non-gazetted officers of the Revenue Department are similarly transferred out of the district?

30th January 1931]

A.—(1) Sub-Registrars are transferred
(*a*) in the interests of public service, or
(*b*) at the request of the officer concerned, or
(*c*) whenever the officer completes three years' stay at a particular station, or
(*d*) when adverse reports are received from Registrars regarding the officers' reputation for honesty or work.

(2) The transfers of non-gazetted officers of the Revenue Department are not governed by similar principles.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils

Abolition of toll-fees.

292 *Q.*—Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that in view of the acute economic strain in the villages the ryots are very much inconvenienced by the toll-fees collected from them;

(*b*) why there is delay in the abolition of toll-gates; and

(*c*) what steps they propose to take to give immediate relief to the ryots from this burden of toll-fees?

A.—A Bill to abolish all tolls in the Presidency of Madras will be introduced at this meeting of the Council.

Public Health

Water-supply scheme from Mettur dam to Salem town.

293 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur S. ELLAPPA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) in what stage the investigation of the water-supply scheme to the Salem town from the Mettur dam is; and

(*b*) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table the orders, if any, issued on the subject?

A.—(*a*) The Sanitary Engineer reports that the investigation is now nearing completion and that the report on the investigation is expected to be ready by the end of February 1931.

(*b*) A copy of G.O. No. 705, P.H., dated 26th March 1930, is placed on the table.[a]

Canals

Deepening of the Conolly's canal from Ponnani to Valapad.

294 *Q.*—Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what steps have been taken to remove silt and to deepen the Conolly's canal from Ponnani to Valapad in pursuance of the resolution moved on 31st March 1920 by the hon. Mr. Madhava Raja and accepted by the hon. Mr. Knapp on behalf of Government;

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a Printed as Appendix VI on page 702 infra.

(b) whether the canal at the place mentioned above is sufficiently deep to allow of motor boat traffic; and

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to take early steps to make the canal useful for motor vessels and if so, what steps?

A.—(a) A certain amount of silt has been removed from the canal and the removal of silt is going on.

(b) Between Ponnani and Chetwaye the Canal is narrow and it is doubtful whether the wash from motor boats would not scour the sides and so silt up the bed. The result of the removal of silt will however be watched.

(c) A motor launch service is to be opened between Chetwaye and Cochin when the clearance of silt in that reach is completed.

Census

Inclusion of the barber community as 'Nayee Brahmans' in the coming census.

295 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government are in receipt of the communication from the Government of India directing the authorities concerned to enter the name of the barber community as 'Nayee Brahmans' in the coming census operations?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to Question No. 109.

Constitution of Provinces

Constitution of the Andhra province.

296 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what was the result of the correspondence between this Government and the Government of India regarding the constitution of the Andhra province; and

(b) whether the Government are prepared to lay the connected papers on the Council table?

A.—(a) & (b) There was no correspondence between this Government and the Government of India but a copy of the proceedings of this House on the 14th March 1927 regarding the constitution of a separate Andhra province was forwarded to the Government of India on the 14th April 1927.

Irrigation

Certain schemes in the Godavari Central delta.

297 Q.—Mr. K. KESAVA RAMAMURTI NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that for want of an additional staff several important schemes have been left uninvestigated in the Godavari Central delta for some years together; and

(b) if so, what are those schemes?

30th January 1931]

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) No. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 251.

Irrigation of lands in Erraballi and other villages.

298 *Q.*—Mr. K. Koti Reddi : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was a proposal to have spring channels from the river Pennar for irrigating lands in the villages of Erraballi, Vakamada, Vogur, Govindupalle, Pattapurayi and Kottur, etc., in Sidhout taluk of Cuddapah district;

(*b*) if so, what is the estimated acreage and the cost of the proposed project;

(*c*) whether the ryots were consulted and whether they were not willing to pay Rs. 10 or any other amount as water-rate per acre; and

(*d*) what has become of the proposal?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) The Government have not the information but have called for a report.

Progress of the Tungabhadra-Kistna Reservoir Project.

299. *Q.*—The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any information about whether the Nizam's Government are investigating the possibilities of allowing the Madras Government to bring to existence the Tungabhadra-Kistna Reservoir Project;

(*b*) whether any correspondence is still going on between the Madras Government and the Nizam's Government;

(*c*) whether the Government propose to take active steps to carry out the Tungabhadra-Kistna Reservoir Project at any early date; and

(*d*) whether the Tungabhadra-Kistna Reservoir Project or a modified Tungabhadra Project will be more useful from the stand-point of a larger rice producing area?

A.—(*a*) The Government have addressed His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government in the matter. The latter are investigating the possibilities of a site for a reservoir on the Kistna, with a view to a joint irrigation project.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Before the project can be taken up an agreement between the Madras, Bombay, Mysore and Hyderabad Governments is essential. The Government of Madras is in correspondence with the other Governments in the matter.

(*d*) The question is not clear. The project contemplated includes both the Tungabhadra and the Kistna.

[30th January 1931

Construction of falling shutters at Pennar anicut.

300 *Q.*—The KUMARARAJA OF VENKATAGIRI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Nellore River Canal system is getting unsatisfactory year after year in its working on account of precarious floods in the river Pennar;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the ryots have, through their conferences, requested the Government to put up automatic falling shutters on the Pennar anicut at Nellore;

(*c*) whether the construction of a bridge over the Pennar at Nellore is now under consideration; and

(*d*) if so, whether the Government have investigated the feasibility of designing the bridge to be a regulator bridge?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information to that effect.

(*b*) No such request can be traced; but proposals for the installation of shutters have been considered and abandoned in recent years on the ground that the supply would be insecure and the return inadequate.

(*c*) The district board has the matter under consideration.

(*d*) No. There is little likelihood of funds for the construction of a bridge being provided at present. But the Government have ordered the re-examination of the question of providing falling shutters on the Nellore anicut.

Supply of water to the Nellore tank from the Pennar river.

301 *Q.*—The KUMARARAJA OF VENKATAGIRI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that supply to the Nellore tank from the Pennar river is getting precarious year after year;

(*b*) whether any representations from the ayacut ryots were received by the Government or Public Works Department authorities about this; and

(*c*) if so, what action is proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the supply?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information.

(*b*) No representation has been received by the Government.

(*c*) The Government have called for a report.

Irrigation under Chapad channel, Proddatur taluk.

302 *Q.*—Mr. T. NARASA REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many acres of land were proposed to be irrigated by Chapad channel of Proddatur taluk (Cuddapah district) before the channel came into existence;

(*b*) how many acres of land is now irrigated by the same;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the people who applied for water to irrigate their lands have been refused tickets for taking water from the channel;

30th January 1931]

(*d*) whether the Government ever contemplated to widen the channel;

(*e*) how many tanks are supplied water by this channel, and what are they; and

(*f*) whether the Government have made any investigation to ascertain if the lands under this channel may be enabled to yield two crops in a year?

A.—(*a*) Twelve thousand four hundred and ninety-six acres.

(*b*) Over 8,700 acres.

(*c*) Water tickets for the lands that cannot be irrigated without crossbunding the field channels are not given as such crossbunding obstructs the supply of water to the fields lower down. Such cases are reported to be very rare: in other cases water tickets are granted on application.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) Four tanks; they are—

(1) Madur tank,
(2) Sunnapurajupalli tank,
(3) Pallavole old tank, and
(4) Pallavole new tank.

(*f*) No.

Irrigation under Budvel tank.

303 *Q.*—Mr. T. Narasa Reddi: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what is the income derived from the lands irrigated by Badvel tank;

(*b*) how many times was it full during the last twenty years;

(*c*) whether the tank is fed by any channels or streams; and

(*d*) whether any proposals are pending to make the tank supply water sufficient to yield two crops?

A.—(*a*) The average gross income in the last five years has been about Rs. 18,600.

(*b*) Once; in 1916.

(*c*) Yes, by three streams, viz., Amudaleru, Taligeru and Gundlavagu.

(*d*) No. The tank is being investigated by the Tank Restoration Scheme Party; after this investigation is completed, the question whether any improvement can be made will be considered.

Repairs to breaches in irrigation tanks in South Arcot district.

304 *Q.*—Swami A. S. Sahajanandam: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was a special report sent by the Collector of South Arcot to Government about the breaches on account of the recent rains of nearly 150 irrigation tanks in the district of South Arcot;

(*b*) whether the Government have issued or propose to issue instructions to afford all facilities to finish up all repairs to such tanks before the beginning of the next season for storing in them water for irrigation; and

[30th January 1931

(c) whether the dwellings of the Cheri people were afflicted in some of the adjoining areas to the breached tanks in Villupuram, Tindivanam, Gingee and Cuddalore taluks and whether they have been restored and their distress removed by grant made either freely or as loans?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 201-A. The Government have no further particulars.

Progress of the Pulikonda project.

305 *Q.*—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased—

(*a*) to place on the table the correspondence about the Pulikonda irrigation project sanctioned in G.O. No. 4583, dated 4th August 1905; and

(*b*) to state what further action has been taken in the matter to bring it to fruition?

A.—(*a*) There is no such Government Order, but G.O. No. 948 I., dated 4th October 1905, to which the hon. Member may intend to refer, is as follows:—"His Excellency the Governor in Council considers that the Pulikonda project may lie over until final orders are passed with regard to the Kistna reservoir project."

(*b*) The project was recently considered as a protective work, but in view of its proximity to the area irrigable by the Guntur upland canal of the proposed Tungabhadra-Kistna project which would run down as far as the Gundlakamma river, the Government decided that no further protection would be necessary for the tract in which the area irrigable by the Pulikonda project lies, but they will be prepared to reopen the question if the ryots express their willingness to pay a water-rate which will make the project satisfy the conditions of a productive work.

Progress of the Pulikonda project.

306 *Q.*—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any gaugings were taken as per G.O. No. 4583, dated 4th August 1905, regarding Pulikonda project;

(*b*) whether the Assistant Director of Agriculture and Deputy Director of Agriculture visited last year Maddulur and other villages with a view to investigate facilities for irrigation and fertility of soil; and

(*c*) whether the officers mentioned above have sent up any proposals and, if so, what they are and what the Government propose to do in the matter?

A.—(*a*) Gaugings were taken for 18 years.

(*b*) The Government have no information.

(*c*) The Deputy Director submitted a report. The Government's decision is set out in the answer to question No. 233, to which the hon. Member's attention is invited.

30th January 1931]

Landlord and Tenant

Introduction of the Madras Estates Land Act Amendment Bill.

307 *Q.*—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the Madras Estates Land Act Amending Bill was referred to a committee;

(*b*) when the Government propose to introduce the Bill into the Legislative Council;

(*c*) what are the reasons for the delay in carrying out this piece of legislation; and

(*d*) what expenditure was incurred on the committee?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) In June 1924 the Government constituted a committee to consider the various suggestions made from time to time for amending the Madras Estates Land Act and to suggest such alterations and amendments to the Act as might be necessary. The Committee did not submit any report to Government, but they appointed a sub-committee with the Advocate-General as the President to draft an amending Bill. This draft was completed and sent to Government in May 1928. The Government referred the Bill for the remarks of the Board of Revenue which were received in November 1928. The Bill with the Board's replies was considered by Government, who again in July and August 1929, had to make a reference to the Board of Revenue and the High Court on some of the important points connected with it. The latter's reply was received in January 1930. The Government have further examined the Bill in the light of the observations of the Board and the information furnished by the High Court and a revised Bill has been drafted. It is not possible to say when the Bill will be introduced in the Council; but steps are being taken to introduce it as early as possible.

(*d*) The expenditure consisted mainly of the travelling allowance of non-official members from the mufassal who attended the meetings of committees. As the Bills relating to it were spread over four years, 1924 to 1927, it will be difficult now to ascertain the expenditure incurred; the Government doubt whether the information will be of value commensurate with the labour of collecting it.

Land Assignment

Assignment of lands from the Vavveru reserve forests.

308 *Q.*—The KUMARARAJA OF VENKATAGIRI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) at what stage the question of assignment of lands from the Vavveru reserve forest to the depressed classes is;

(*b*) how long the matter has been pending; and

(*c*) whether the lands will be given free of cost; or if for cost, at what rate per acre and under what conditions?

[30th January 1931

A.—(*a*) The question of the assignment of the disafforested lands in Vavveru and other villages in the Kovur taluk, Nellore district, to the members of the depressed classes is held in abeyance pending the preparation of detailed plans and estimates for the scheme to provide irrigation facilities to the lands from the Kanigiri Reservoir.

(*b*) Since 1924, when the lands were disafforested.

(*c*) The question whether the lands will be assigned free of cost or not and the conditions of the grant will be considered when the plans and estimates are ready and the cost of the irrigation scheme is known.

Application of Doctor Mallikarjuna Rao for grant of lands in Kamavarapukota.

309 *Q.*—Mr. G. Simhachalam: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that *Doctor* Mallikarjuna Rao applied for grant of lands in Kamavarapukota and Tadepalligudem taluks of West Godavari for the raising of certain medicinal plants; if so, at what stage it is; and

(*b*) whether the Government have received any memorial regarding the matter?

A.—(*a*) Yes; the applicant was informed in November 1928 that his application for the grant of a large area of land could not be considered unless he submitted a detailed scheme for the utilization of the land and could convince the Government that he had adequate means to carry out his scheme. The applicant has not so far submitted any detailed scheme nor has he shown that he has adequate means to finance the scheme.

(*b*) Yes; a number of memorials from the applicant have been received by Government. In none of these were the Government's stipulations complied with.

Land Revenue

Classification of wet lands in Kistna Delta.

310 *Q.*—Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of classes into which the settled wet lands in the Kistna delta are divided as regards irrigation facilities;

(*b*) the extent under each class as per settlement now in force;

(*c*) the extent in each class as proposed in the new settlement;

(*d*) the extent for which the classification under source of supply has been raised in each class separately;

(*e*) the total kist demand under the old classification from the settled wet lands;

(*f*) the rates proposed for lands under various classes of irrigation sources as compared with those existing previously;

(*g*) the total kist demand according to the rates now proposed;

(*h*) the various improvements done in the delta with their cost to justify the proposed increase in rates;

30th January 1931]

(*i*) how each portion of the delta has been benefited by those improvements;

(*j*) the amount collected under inclusion fees on dry lands up to the end of 1930; and

(*k*) what area the Government are still going to include in the ayacut and what amount of inclusion fees they intend collecting on these lands?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraph 11 of the Scheme Report printed in G.O. No. 405, Revenue, dated 26th February 1919, which has been made available for the Press.

(*c*) & (*d*) The Government have not the information. The attention of the hon. Member is in this connexion invited to paragraph 14 of Notification No. 12, published in the *Kistna District Gazette,* dated 10th February 1930.

(*e*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to column 3 of Appendix XVI at page 159 of G.O. No. 405, Revenue, dated 26th February 1919 (made available for the Press).

(*f*) & (*g*) Orders about the rates to be adopted at the present resettlement have not been passed. The question is still under the consideration of the Government.

(*h*) & (*i*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Appendix 6 (ii) and (iii) of Volume II of the Report of the Economic Enquiry Committee and to the Chief Engineer's remarks and the appendix thereto printed with the papers placed on the table of the Legislative Council on 6th November 1930.

(*j*) Rupees 7·93 lakhs up to July 1927 in the Kistna Eastern Delta. No inclusion fee is levied in the Kistna Western Delta.

(*k*) The question of including additional lands in the ayacut of the Kistna Eastern and Western Deltas is under examination.

Removal of a wall in Pennathur village.

311 *Q.*—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether in Pennathur village, Chidambaram taluk, B memos. were issued to remove a wall put up across a public street R.S. No. 286 and raised as a compound wall in front of the Vishnu temple in the village;

(*b*) whether a petition was presented for its removal subsequent to the years during which any B memos. were served;

(*c*) whether the Tahsildar justified its existence on the plea that it was permitted some years back by an order previously made;

(*d*) whether the copy of such order was applied for by the petitioner and why it was refused; and

(*e*) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the Council table the order permitting a wall to be put up across a public street?

A.—(*a*) to (*e*) The Government have not the information.

[30th January 1931

Village Establishments

Increase in the salaries of village officers.

312 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representations were made to the Government during the last four or five years for raising the salaries of village officers and village menials; and

(b) if so, when and with what result?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) In the years 1927, 1928, 1929 and 1930. The Government were unable to comply with the requests made.

Batta to village officers for attending taluk offices.

313 Q.—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of times the village officers and village servants in ryotwari tracts are required to attend the taluk office and the subdivisional office concerned during a fasli;

(b) what is the batta paid to village officers and servants each time they attend, or in a lump sum for the whole fasli;

(c) whether the village officers are paid any batta by Government when such village officers are required to attend the Government taluk office concerned; and

(d) what is the amount that was saved in consequence of the reduction of pay or non-payment or reduction of batta to village officers and servants as a result of the restoration of village offices under the Madras Village Officers Act, 1926?

A.—(a) The Government have not the information.

(b) & (c) No batta is paid to the village officers; the village servants are paid a sum of Rs. 2-8-0 each per fasli for attendance at jamabandi.

(d) The discontinuance of the jamabandi allowance to village officers in ryotwari areas resulted in a saving of Rs. 2,05,615. On the other hand the result of the restoration (under the Village Officers Restoration Act), in spite of the reduction made in the scale of pay to meet the extra cost involved in that measure, was an increase of Rs. 2,87,650 in the total pay roll of village establishments in those areas.

Service tenures held by Sardars and Naiks in Ghumsur division.

314 Q.—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of lands held by Sardars, Naiks and Paiks of Ghumsur division in the Ganjam district on service tenure and the amount of revenue derivable from such lands;

(b) whether such service tenures were created for Police service or Revenue service or any other service; and

30th January 1931]

(c) whether any service is being rendered by the said Sardars, Naiks and Paiks; if so, what is the nature of such service, and whether on that account the ordinary establishment of the public offices in the Ghumsur division is less?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) A report has been called for.

Electricity

Supply of electricity to Salem town.

315 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) how far the electric supply scheme of Salem town has advanced;

(b) whether it is a fact that the licence for the distribution of electricity within Salem town has been given to a foreign firm;

(c) if so, whether other indigenous agencies and the local municipal council applied for the same; and

(d) if the answer to clause (b) is in the negative, whether the Government will be now pleased to consider any application from the local people?

A.—(a), (b) & (d) The Government have granted a licence to Messrs. Octavius Steel & Co., to distribute electric energy in Salem.

(c) Yes. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to answers to questions Nos. 163 and 164.

Hydro-Electric Schemes

Investigation of hydro-electric schemes by water from the Kistna river.

316 *Q.*—Mr. K. Koti Reddi: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government have investigated the possibilities of having one or more big hydro-electric schemes by the waters of the river Kistna, and with what results?

A.—The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. The second part does not arise.

Jails

Release of Mr. M. Purushothama Sarma.

317 *Q.*—Mr. C. Indraiah: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Mangipudi Purushothama Sarma, a satyagrahi prisoner in Vellore jail, was changed from 'A' to 'B' class;

(b) what are the reasons for such a change;

(c) whether it is a fact that he is suffering from tuberculosis;

(d) what was his weight at the time when he was brought to the jail and what is his present weight;

(e) whether he was examined by any doctor and, if so, what was the result of his examination;

(f) whether any petition has been presented by any of the relatives of the prisoner praying for his immediate release on the ground that he is in a precarious state of health; and

(g) if so, whether any orders have been passed by the Government on the said petition?

[30th January 1931

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The recommendation of the Magistrate was to place him in 'A' class. The Government placed him in 'B' class. The decision of the Government was based on information regarding his status, mode of living, etc., furnished by the District Magistrate.

(*c*) & (*e*) The Superintendent of the Vellore Central Jail, who is an Indian Medical Service officer, examined him. The result of the examination is stated as follows:—"He is most probably suffering from tubercular disease of the bowels, as judged by the manifestations of symptoms. I consider him to be a suitable case for further treatment in the Wellesley Sanatorium Jail, Bellary."

(*d*) He has lost 14 lb. since admission.

(*f*) Petitions have been received from M.R.Ry. Venkata Sarma (brother of the convict) and M.R.Ry. S. Subba Rao Garu of West Godavari praying for the release of the convict on medical grounds.

(*g*) A reply has been sent to the effect that the convict has been removed to the Wellesley Sanatorium Jail, Bellary, for treatment and that a further report on his health has been called for from the Inspector-General. Final orders will be issued on receipt of the Inspector-General's report.

Remission of the sentence on Mr. Annapragada Kameswara Row.

318 *Q.*—Rao Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether, in view of the Government Order remitting convictions and sentences of political prisoners for refusing to give finger prints, the conviction and sentence of 3 months in Cuddalore jail of Mr. Annapragada Kameswara Row of Guntur (B class) now in Vellore jail was remitted;

(*b*) if not, why not; and

(*c*) whether it will be remitted?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clause (*c*) of question No. 187-B. The case of this prisoner has not so far been brought to the notice of the Government.

(*c*) The question will be considered by the Government on receipt of the information called for.

Political prisoners sentenced under the Borstal Act.

319 *Q.*—Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any of the political prisoners sentenced under the Borstal Act are being kept at any of the Borstal Schools; if so, how many;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Sessions Judges of Guntur and Nellore have held that the Borstal School is not meant for people of the stamp of persons convicted for political offences and whether any appeals have been preferred against their decisions; and

(*c*) whether the Government have asked magistrates to stop hereafter sending political prisoners into the Borstal School, and if so, when?

A.—(*a*) On the 3rd December 1930, there were in Borstal schools 149 adolescent offenders convicted in connexion with the Civil Disobedience Movement.

(*b*) The Government have perused the judgment of the Sessions Judge, Nellore, in which he has modified the orders of the Subdivisional Magistrate, Kavali, directing the detention of three adolescent offenders connected with the Civil Disobedience Movement, on the ground that the provisions of section 8 of the Madras Borstal Schools Act were not observed by the Magistrate in the case of those individual adolescents. The Government have not seen the judgment of the Sessions Judge, Guntur, referred to. No appeals or revision petitions have been preferred by the Government against the decisions of the two Sessions Judges.

(*c*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of question No. 167.

Alleged ill-treatment in jail of Mr. Konda Venkatappayya.

320 *Q.*—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Desabhakta Konda Venkatappayya Pantulu is made to work in the Madras Penitentiary in the hot sun without even half an hour's rest?

A.—The information has been called for.

Alleged ill-health of Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya.

321 *Q.*—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are in possession of any information regarding the health of Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya Pantulu; and

(*b*) whether it is true that he was recently brought to Madras for the purpose of medical examination; and, if so, what is the result of such an examination?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information.

Use of aluminium vessels in jails.

322 *Q.*—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM: Will the hon the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that prisoners in jails are supplied with an aluminium plate, an earthen pot and an aluminium lota; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that some of the prisoners in Madras Penitentiary brought to the notice of the jail authorities the fact that the use of aluminium articles for taking food is considered by Western authorities and doctors as the cause of several dental diseases?

A.—(*a*) The hon. Member is referred to rule 354 of the Madras Jail Manual.

(*b*) The Government have no information.

[30th January 1931

Police

Alleged raid on Mr. Vasudevan's house in Chanikulam.

323 Q.—Rai Bahadur C. KOLANDA REDDI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was a raid on the house of one Mr. Vasudevan in Chanikulam, Georgetown, on the 14th of January 1931; and if so, why;

(b) whether ladies were injured in the course of the raid; and if so, how many and what is the nature of their injuries;

(c) why they were injured; and

(d) what action has been taken against the Police who caused these injuries to ladies in a house?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information, but have called for a report.

Alleged lathi charge on a social Conference at Tanuku.

324 Q.—Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the District Superintendent of Police of Ellore subjected to lathi charge the members of Rama Dandu assembled in a Social Conference at Tanuku on the 3rd and 4th January 1931; and

(b) whether the Police disturbed by force the arrangements made for feeding the members?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

Alleged lathi charge on Congressmen at Peddapuram.

325 Q.—Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a lathi charge was made at Peddapuram against Congress men and women congregated at a picnic party in which Messrs. Pyda Venkatanarayana, Zamindar, Barrister K.V.R. Swami, ex-M.L.C., Miss Peddada Kameswaramma, etc., were injured;

(b) what action has been taken against the Police that indulged in such lathi play; and

(c) whether steps have been taken to prevent such occurrences in the future?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answers to clauses (a) and (b) of question No. 230 and clause (f) of question No. 231.

(b) None.

(c) The question is based upon false premises. The Government would obviously not be justified in restricting the exercise by the police of the powers and duties with which they have been entrusted by law.

Alleged attack on a meeting at Coimbatore by the police.

326 Q.—Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the circumstances under which the police attacked a meeting of the people at Coimbatore on 25th December 1930;

(b) how many were injured in this connexion;

30th January 1931]

(c) how many had to be admitted into the hospital;

(d) whether it is a fact that the people were pulled by their hair-tufts and dragged on the floor; and

(e) what action the Government have taken against the policemen who are responsible for this?

A.—(a) At about 3-30 p.m. on 25th December 1930 the Congress party at Coimbatore suddenly announced that there would be a meeting in the compound of the local Town Hall that evening at which addresses would be delivered on the boycott of the census, toddy shops and foreign cloth, and on the present political situation. At about 6-15 p.m. some 30 to 40 volunteers and Congressmen went to the compound of the Town Hall followed by a crowd of over 300 persons. One Jothinath Singh started singing national songs and the crowd began to swell and became restless and unruly. The Deputy Superintendent of Police, Dharapuram, then in temporary charge of the district, finding that a breach of the peace was imminent, asked those concerned not to sing and to discontinue the meeting. They asked for time to consider the question, which was allowed. After debating the matter for some twenty minutes they announced their intention of going on with the meeting as there was no order from any Magistrate prohibiting it. Thereupon one Rajagopalan of Udamalpet began to address the crowd. The Deputy Superintendent of Police again ordered the meeting to disperse, whereupon stones were thrown and a head constable and a police constable were hit. The temper of the assembly and the necessity of dispersing it thus becoming clear, the Deputy Superintendent of Police called in 15 constables who had been kept outside and dispersed the crowd by a lathi charge.

(b) & (c) About two persons received injuries. They were sent to the hospital but their injuries being slight, were not admitted as in-patients and did not again attend the hospital as out-patients.

(d) No.

(e) None.

[*Note*.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

III.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *re* LATHI CHARGE BY THE POLICE IN GODOWN STREET, MADRAS.

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Mr. President, in view of the answers given by the hon. the Home Member, I am obliged to make an adjournment motion. Under Standing Order No. 19, I beg for leave to move—

'*that the business of the House be adjourned to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance of recent occurrence, namely, the needless and severe lathi charge and beating by the Police on the afternoon of the 28th instant in the Godown street, Madras, of Messrs. K. Bashyam, Advocate, V. A. Sundaram and others.*' "

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" I second it."